

Goldberg Top 1965 Peacemaker

By Drew Pearson

As the Christian world prepares to celebrate the birthday of the man who strove to bring peace on earth, this column pays tribute to the man who did the most to bring peace on earth during 1965.

Significantly, he, too, is a Jew — Arthur Goldberg, the first Jew ever to represent the United States at the United Nations, an assemblage where approximately one-fourth of the countries practice the Moslem religion and where at least ten Arab countries are vigorously, at times vitriolically, opposed to Israel. It is a tribute to Ambassador Goldberg that, though his support of Israel is a well known fact, the representatives of the Arab nations treat him with dignity and respect.

In fact, one of the most important, though unpublicized, incidents of the New York social season was when the Ambassador of Egypt, Mohammad El-Kony, invited Ambassador Goldberg to dinner. This was an unusual invitation, since the Egyptians have been bitter critics of Israel. Twice in the last 13 years there has been war between Israel and Egypt.

It never leaked out, but



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Ambassador Goldberg almost missed this crucial dinner. His staff had failed to note on his calendar the fact that he had already accepted a dinner given by Italian Ambassador Vinci in honor of former Premier Amintore Fanfani of Italy, president of the General Assembly. The Italian Ambassador had invited Goldberg early, and he had accepted, then later found he had two dinners on his hands. Since he had accepted the Italian dinner first, he telephoned Ambassador El-Kony, explained that his office had slipped up on his engagements.

"But," reminded Ambassador El-Kony, "this dinner is given in your honor."

Since a dinner given by Egypt in honor of a Jewish Ambassador was history-making, Goldberg telephoned Ambassador Vinci, explained the situation, and the Italian Ambassador gallantly yielded.

Triumph in Kashmir

Ambassador Goldberg's greatest triumph was in arranging a truce between Pakistan and India. The two countries were at each other's throats when Goldberg maneuvered a unanimous vote of the Security Council demanding a truce. What surprised the world was the fact that the Soviet Union supported the United States. This was not easy to achieve. At one point in the discussions a young diplomat remarked: "We won't

budge an inch. We'll make the Russians accept our position."

"You never win in a negotiation that way," cautioned Goldberg. "Long ago in labor disputes, I learned that if you take an unalterable position and demand that the other side accept it, you end up with a strike."

Probably the greatest contribution Ambassador Goldberg has made to the United Nations is his long experience as a labor negotiator. Before he became Secretary of Labor and a Justice of the Supreme Court, he had spent most of his life representing the United Steelworkers, the United Auto Workers, the Transit Workers, and various other unions in tough bargaining bouts with management. He knew when to stand firm, when to compromise. Few of Goldberg's negotiations ever ended in a strike.

Old Home Week

Walking down Fifth Avenue with Arthur Goldberg, Lord Caradon, the British Ambassador, was astonished when a bus driver stopped his bus, got out and yelled, "Hi, Art!" He came over to the curb to shake hands with the man who had once represented him and other bus drivers in Mike Quill's Transit Worker negotiations.

Further down Fifth Avenue a taxi driver yelled, "Hi, Art!" He came over to shake hands. Lord Caradon was flabber-

gasted. "It's a good thing for Lindsay you're not running for mayor of New York," he said.

It was not easy for Arthur Goldberg to give up a life job on the most influential court in the world, and he left with considerable reluctance. He received nice letters at the time from all the members of the court wishing him well, except the Chief Justice.

The Chief and Goldberg had been unusually close. They had worked together on some of the toughest decisions. But the Chief Justice did not write.

Several weeks passed, and Arthur began to wonder why he had not heard from his old friend. Finally a letter came. It was written in Warren's own hand, obviously after considerable thought. He told Arthur how sorry he was to lose him.

The Chief Justice said he felt toward Goldberg as his mother felt when he enlisted in World War I. "She told me how sorry she was to see me go," wrote the Chief Justice, "but added that she knew I had enlisted in a cause in which I believed."

"And I know," the Chief Justice told his friend, "that you have enlisted in the cause of peace."

It was to try to bring peace to this weary, war-threatened world that Arthur Goldberg gave up a lifetime job on the Supreme Court.